



## Open Educational Resources

An Initiative by NIOS



**National Institute of Open Schooling**  
A-24-25, Institutional Area  
Sector-62, NOIDA

### About National Institute of Open Schooling:

The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) was established in November, 1989 as an autonomous organisation in pursuance of National Policy on Education, 1986, by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. Open Schooling was originally experimented upon since 1979 as a project of the CBSE, and was later amalgamated with the NIOS. In October 1990 through a resolution of the Government of India, the NIOS was vested with the authority to examine and certify students registered with it, up to Pre-degree level courses.

- Secondary Education Course
- Senior Secondary Education Course
- Vocational Education Courses/Programmes
- Life Enrichment Programmes

### Why OER For Open Schooling:

Open Educational Resources (OER) has the advantage of making learning enjoyable, opens up possibility of accessibility to quality education by all, and subject to continuous upgradation of contents by subject experts. Because of its accessibility by all, it will benefit students not only of NIOS but also from remote areas and marginalised sections of society who are presently not able to get quality educational material.



### Programmes Offered by NIOS:

The National Institute of Open Schooling provides opportunities to interested learners by making available the following Courses/Programmes of Study through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode.

- Open Basic Education (OBE) Programme for Children (upto 14 years), adolescents and adults at A, B and C levels that are equivalent to classes III, V and VIII of the formal school system respectively.

### Objectives of the OER Project:

The main objectives are to develop and deliver a vocational system of quality education supported by OER and delivered to students for playing various roles in the areas of their choice and for obtaining their livelihood and place in society. The ultimate goal is to develop Certificate and Diploma level courses in chosen vocational areas with the support of OER.

### Subject Areas Covered in the Project:

The NIOS has recently taken up development of OER in three areas of vocational education. It will be extended to other areas subsequently. The areas where OER is being developed are:

- (a) ICT Applications
- (b) Rural Technology
- (c) Tourism and Hospitality Management

### Approach and Model:

The distance education mode with its modern use of networking, new processes of digitisation, virtualisation, personalisation for individuals and groups, open resource movement, wiki processes of mass participation in collaborative work and



various ways of social and economic networking offers an excellent vehicle for offering formal as well as face-to-face education. This forms the basis of Open Resource and Role Based Education for Scenario and Situation Based Learning and Situated Development for Social Reconstruction and Transformation.

With the use of complete ICT applications in networking and global connectedness, this program becomes independent of any existing

delivery modes and can be used suitably in face-to-face, distance or in any mixed or hybrid mode. With the total virtualisation and integration of real life working and living, this becomes a new mode, the transmute of education.

Existing curriculum will be converted into role and function based Blueprint, each role will be specified in terms of functions —processes and expected results. Each process is then described by activities that help in completing the process. Each activity is written with its context or situation and supporting information given for learning, teaching and evaluating. Thus ultimately the curriculum is changed into role and activities to give results. Each activity needs knowledge, tools, and other resources to complete the activity. The roles also are played at various levels of performance.

### Outcomes of the Project:

- Creation of OER in the form of role-based small modules at different levels useful for all learners at the Secondary School stage.
- Creation and management of Course Teams and Study / Training Center Teams and organise their services for learners along with their continuous training and upgradation of vocational competencies and capabilities.
- Creation, management and maintenance of learner groups and communities of teachers / trainers and learners and practitioners for continuous and sustainable development.
- Creation of network of provider institutions, teacher & trainers, users and agencies involved in the vocational education and employment and form their consortium or

alliance for sustainable program development and deployment.

- Creation of mechanisms for value conversion and quality assurance and interest based community formation for the management of public-private and community partnerships for the socio-economic development of the locality and local community in the context of globalisation.

### Future Plan

The importance of science education for a society cannot be undermined. It not only develops a scientific temper but also enhances logical thought process, analytical bend of mind and scope for higher education. Science education in core disciplines such as physics, chemistry, mathematics and biology is well established in the face-to-face mode in India while it has yet to gather momentum in ODL. In view of the difficulty level and complexity involved in science disciplines, there is a low enrolment and low pass percentage compared to arts and commerce streams. Low pass percentages in science stream, although it attracts the best of students, is a matter of concern and needs to be addressed. Making OER available at free of cost will help learners and teachers globally.

Keeping in view the need for development of OER in Science disciplines, NIOS plans to develop and deploy OER in four subject areas in science, viz., physics, chemistry, mathematics and biology.

**For more information, please visit NIOS OER website:**  
<http://oer.nios.ac.in>